

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 4 10, wherein the mandrel is mounted for translation on a first set of two guide rails, wherein said first set of two guide rails is parallel to the shaft of said mandrel, the two rails being disposed symmetrically relative to a plane which contains the shaft of the mandrel, and wherein the plane which contains the shaft of the mandrel is approximately perpendicular to the plane which contains the surface of the first set of two guide rails.

3. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the capping tools are mounted on a second set of two guide rails disposed symmetrically relative to a plane which contains the center of the recapping tools, and wherein the plane which contains the center of the recapping tools is approximately perpendicular to the plane which contains the surface of the second set of two guide rails.

4. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 4 10, wherein the movements of translation of the recapping tools and of the mandrel are situated in a single horizontal plane.

5. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 4 10, wherein, in addition to the recapping tools, the second support structure comprises units for rolling a new tread for the tire to be recapped, after the tread has been applied to the latter.

6. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim + 10, wherein the recapping tools comprise rasping tools for the tire to be recapped.

7. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the rasping tools comprise a series of circular blades, which are fitted such as to rotate around a rotational shaft, said rotational shaft being disposed approximately perpendicularly to the direction of translation of said tools.

8. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim + 10, wherein the recapping tools include tools for application of a tread.

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 10, comprising at least one additional structure for supporting tools for recapping the tire, which are mounted to translate the tools on the corresponding structure, in a direction which is approximately perpendicular to the direction of translation of the mandrel.

10. (New) An apparatus for recapping tires comprising a horizontal rigid frame comprising a first horizontal modular structure and a second horizontal modular structure;

(a) wherein said first structure comprises a first set of rails for guiding a first carriage having a vertical upright which supports a rotational shaft on which is fitted a mandrel for support of a tire, wherein said mandrel is mounted for translation on said first structure in a direction parallel to the rotational shaft;

(b) wherein said second structure comprises a second set of rails for guiding a second carriage on which recapping tools are fitted, wherein said recapping tools are mounted for translation on said second structure in a direction approximately perpendicular to the direction of translation of the mandrel; and

(c) wherein the first structure and the second structure are arranged perpendicular to one another, and wherein the first set of rails and the second set of rails are disposed in essentially the same horizontal plane.